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MAYOR KILPATRICK AND NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICIAL DISCUSS IMPORTANCE OF STRENGTHENED INFORMATION SHARING IN DETROIT REGION

DETROIT, September, 11, 2006—As the Nation remembers the sacrifices of September 11, 2001, the City of Detroit and the Office of the U.S. Director of National Intelligence hosted an event featuring remarks by Mayor Kwame M. Kilpatrick and Mr. Alexander W. Joel, Civil Liberties Protection Officer for the Office of the U.S. Director of National Intelligence, on the importance of strengthened partnerships and information sharing between Federal, State, and local governments, while protecting our civil liberties.

State and regional officials, business leaders and representatives of the regions' diverse communities attended the event, which opened with a moment of silence in honor of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

The event, "Remembering September 11, 2001: Continuing to Strengthen Federal, State, and Local Information Sharing," stressed how governments must work together to respond to and neutralize threats.

"We must have the ability to collect, analyze, access and appropriately share information from multiple sources, while ensuring it is protected from unauthorized disclosure," said Mayor Kilpatrick. "One of the ways we are working to improve our information analysis and sharing capabilities is by working with our regional neighbors to establish a fusion center to serve our entire region."

"The dialog we have today must endure," said Mr. Joel. "Together, we must be vigorous, innovative, and responsible in our efforts to meet the many threats before us — in sharing, and safeguarding, information. We must also act under the rule of law, and with respect for our founding principles. This has been the age-old challenge of our democracy, and remains our challenge today — one that all of us in government share: to keep our country safe while remaining true to our oath — to support and defend the Constitution of the United States."